

2014 BUDGET MESSAGE

BIRTHPLACE OF THE OIL INDUSTRY



PROPOSED BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

I am pleased to provide you with a recommended 2014 Annual Operating Budget and Capital Plan that reflect our commitment to provide essential services to our residents while preserving our City's long-term financial viability.



Our City, like most of the country, is still impacted by the recession that began in 2008. However, as the economic downturn impacted revenue, the City has adjusted expenditure levels accordingly.

Supporting the economic development that produces jobs and opportunities in the private sector must continue to be one focus as we make decisions to spend limited resources. That being said, the future of Titusville remains bright and we are beginning to experience some return of positive economic growth.



Over the past several years, City Departments have been

asked to perform their same responsibilities with smaller permanent staffing. As a result, it is our duty not only to look at this year's budget but the trends and outlooks from the past and for years to come.

Population trends as they relate to infrastructure will be another focus. While the City's population has seen a 9% decrease from 6,146 to 5,601 in the last 10 years, the City still needs to maintain the infrastructure that supported a population in excess of 8,000 in the 1940s.

Mission Statement

"To deliver the highest level of service to residents efficiently, effectively, and as professionally as possible while maintaining affordability."

Decreases in population continue to result in much higher per capita costs to remaining residents. This is why another focus of this administration is revitalization of core areas to make them more attractive to businesses and residents. Minor improvements to our public parks and facilities have already had many positive results.

In accordance with Third

Class City Code, Optional Charter Law, the proposed budget for all funds showing the estimated receipts and expenditures of every kind, and all other information of value as a basis for fixing the levy and tax rate for the next fiscal year is presented.

The enclosed plan offers balanced budgets for each fund that will allow us to continue to provide essential services to the public as well as provide a means to continue to restore public parks & facilities, as well as update our ailing fleet in the next year all without a tax increase.

In conclusion, I would like to give special thanks to our department heads and City staff for their commitment and dedication to producing the 2014 budget. I also appreciate the efforts of all City employees and what they do on a daily basis to help make this community great. I look forward to discussion on the budget for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,



Christina Gurstine
Finance Director